

# Patoka Lake Nature Center

3084 N. Dillard Rd. Birdseye, IN 47513 PH. (812)685-2447

**Open Tuesday- Sunday 8:30a.m. – 4p.m. Eastern Daylight Time**

Visit our website: [www.stateparks.in.gov/2420.htm](http://www.stateparks.in.gov/2420.htm)

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## May 2015

### ALL PROGRAMS ARE ON EASTERN TIME.

\*nc ~ Nature Center

\*ar ~ archery range

\*b ~ beach

\*sh ~ shelterhouse

\*br~ boat ramp

\*cg~ campground

\*csh ~ modern campground shelter house

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 9a.m. -12p.m. Beginner Archery Lesson** Meet at the Patoka Lake Archery Range for a beginner's archery lesson. This will be an in-depth introduction to the sport and is open to all ages 8 and older. Participation is limited to the first 15 registrants who want to learn how to shoot archery or sharpen the skills you already have with state certified archery instructors. Pre-register by calling the Patoka Lake Nature Center at (812)685-2447. All equipment will be provided at the event. The archery range is on South Ramp Road, just inside the Main Gate. **ar 1p.m. Family Fun Shoot** Compete with your family in a friendly archery competition after the lesson. Prizes will be awarded to Top Shooter and Highest Scoring Team. **ar**



**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> NATURE CENTER CLOSED**

**8:30p.m. Full Moon Kayak Paddle** - Meet the naturalists at Painter Creek Boat Ramp to observe the night sky and call in owls and frogs during this 1.5 hour tour. Enjoy the full moon on the waters of Patoka. All participants must wear their life jacket and follow night time boating regulations on this tour. Non-motorized boat launch permits are required and will be sold at the ramp for \$5.**br**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 12:30p.m. Garden Stepping Stones** - Celebrate Mother's Day by making her a stepping stone with your hand or foot print! **nc**

**2p.m. Mommy and Me** - Learn how different animal mothers take care of their young. Enjoy a short hike on a paved trail and make a trail mix snack along the way as you learn how mothers gather for their young! **nc**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Turtle Time** - Come to the Nature Center to meet our non-releasable box turtle. Discover the life of these terrestrial reptiles while making a turtle craft to take home! **nc**

**2p.m. Just Humming Around** - Join us for a short film on hummingbirds. Enjoy popcorn and refreshments during the film. Then find out how you can attract these winged beauties to your gardens after the show! **nc**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 1p.m. Show 'em Your Mussels** - Let's take a look at freshwater mollusks that are essential to Indiana's water ecosystems. Which species are invading our waters and how you can help prevent their spread? **nc**  
**2:30p.m. Butterfly and Moth** - Discover the differences between these winged wonders. During this short presentation hear about species seen around the area. **nc**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey:** Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl in backyard shelters.  
**1p.m. Raptors of Patoka-** Join us in the Nature Center backyard as we bring the bald eagle and eastern screech owl out of their shelters for a closer look. Hear their stories of survival and how their species thrive in the wild! **nc**  
**6:30p.m. Naturalists on the Move** - Look for the Naturalists around the Modern Campground. They will be touring your campsite with nature trivia. **cg**

**9p.m. Did You Hear That?** – As the nights get warmer more animals are starting to explore the forest floor and sometimes they are not quiet! Meet the Naturalist at the shelter house in the Modern Campground to listen for animals becoming more active at night. Conquer your fears by identifying noises heard in the dark. **csh**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 10a.m. Dam Tower Tour** - Meet the naturalist at the Patoka Lake Dam off Highway 545 or meet at the Nature Center to car caravan to the Dam for this morning tour. Walk along with Corps of Engineers staff as you tour the inside of the actual dam tower feature! Learn about how the water level is controlled daily and what was done to prevent more serious flooding downstream this spring. (Caravan will leave at 9:30a.m.) **nc**

**1p.m. Beach Bash**- Cool off at the beach with a few nature inspired activities and relay races! **b**

**9p.m. Night Hike** - Discover the world of creatures at night during this half mile hike on a paved trail. Learn all about Indiana's creatures of the night while calling in owls and watching bats fly over head. This hike will meet at a shelter house above the beach. Signs will be posted. **b**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Hike to Totem Rock** - Meet the naturalist at the Nature Center to take a journey back in time. Hear stories of Native American life and early European settlers. Bring sturdy hiking shoes and refreshments for this 3.5 mile hike. **nc**

**1:30p.m. Turtle Trek**- Look for the naturalist and eastern box turtle as they stroll along the beach. **b**

**2p.m. Tree and Leaf ID** – Join us for a leisurely walk around the Nature Center to explore the various trees found in Southern Indiana. Collect leaves along the way to make a leaf identification booklet to take home! **nc**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day 1:30p.m. Hiking the Narries'** - Hear stories of the past from Fred Dillard's Memoirs and John Ash's book 'Patoka Tales' while taking this short ¼ mile hike. Join us on this look back in time at maple syrup tapping, farming and ways of life. **nc**

**2:30p.m. Beach Scavenger Hunt** – Look for signs of life at the beach during this family fun scavenger hunt. Get your list of clues and set out to find all the items. The winning team will receive a prize! **nc**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. Nature Exploration Hike** – Trek alongside the naturalist on the Garden Rock Loop Trail to learn more about plant and animal life sprouting up in the area. Then meet back at the Nature Center to make a nature-inspired craft to take home! **nc**

**1:30p.m. Trinket Jewelry** – Take a walk near the Nature Center to find small objects in nature to make into a beautiful work of art! Glass pebbles and wire for sculpting will be supplied for just \$2. **nc**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl** in backyard shelters.

**1p.m. Raptors of Patoka** – Join us in the Nature Center backyard as we bring the bald eagle and eastern screech owl out of their shelters for a closer look. Hear their stories of survival and how their species thrive in the wild! **nc**

**2p.m. Petrology and Me** – Meet at the beach to learn about different types of rocks and how they form. Be prepared to get sandy as you make your own rocks to take home! **nc**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 7a.m. -5p.m. Bow Hunter Education Course** – This course is geared specifically for individuals wanting to learn how to bow hunt and also for current bow hunters who wish to sharpen their skills. Pre-registration is required for this class. There will be scheduled breaks including one for lunch. Call the Nature Center at (812)685-2447 for more information or to pre-register. **nc**

**9:30a.m. Paddle at Patoka** – Meet at South Lick Fork Boat Ramp for a morning kayak tour. Look for osprey, kingfishers, bald eagles and other wildlife. Travel under the Highway 164 causeway and watch the barn swallows fly! Non-motorized boat launch permits are required and will be sold at the event for \$5.**br**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Birds of Prey: Bald Eagle and Eastern Screech Owl** in backyard shelters.

**1p.m. Intro to Geocaching** - Learn how to locate a cache, what to do once you find one and how to set up your own cache location. Take a hike to a near-by site to locate the Patoka Lake Nature Center Geocache. **nc**

**2p.m. Wildlife Management Hike** –Take a walk with the naturalist along our 2 mile Wildlife Management Trail. Find out how fields are managed for deer, dove and other populations. See what our wildlife team does to help you get the best viewing opportunities at Patoka Lake! **nc**



## Coming in June

### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Kids' Fishing Derby

8:30 -11:30a.m. at the Children's Fishing Pond  
near the Modern Campground



### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Walking Stick Workshop – Celebration of National Trails Day

1p.m. Design and decorate your own walking stick then hit  
the trails in style during a short hike with the naturalist.



### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Dog Dayz of Summer

10a.m. -2p.m.

Participate in dog training sessions with a certified  
dog trainer, hike with your hound, GlamFUR  
shots, Cool Canines Splash Park, tasty treats &  
homemade toy making, talent contest, costume parade and MUCH MORE!

